

# “Dis, Dat an’ Tutter”

COMPOSED BY

ELLIOTT BLAINE HENDERSON

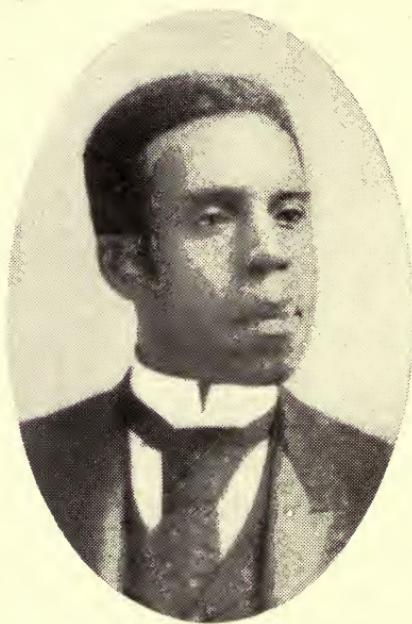
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ELLIOTT BLAINE HENDERSON

# “Dis, Dat an’ Tutter”

## POEMS

COMPOSED BY

ELLIOTT BLAINE HENDERSON

Author of the First and Second Editions of  
“Plantation Echoes”  
and “The Soliloquy of Satan”



SPRINGFIELD, OHIO  
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR  
1908



## DEDICATION

This book is most respectfully dedicated to my dear friend, WILLIAM H. SYFERT, Columbus, Ohio, who has many times more than proved a friend indeed.

Many, many years  
May you live, my old friend !  
Three score and twenty,  
Four score and ten.  
The stuff that you're made of  
Is of sterling worth !  
You don't find none better  
Here on this green earth.

AUTHOR.

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## De Progress ob Progresshun!

To MR. C. W. WOLF, Columbus, Ohio.

Feller citizens ob deez United States, an' extinguished constiterrunts ob de universal domain, an' ladies ob de world-wide expanse:

Ah rize to deelah, proclaim, eulogize, expulgate, frustercate, promulgate an' say:

Parogorically on de effulgence ob de glorification an' transeendeney ob de progress ob de progresshun ob de twentieth century; fum de time dat Lazarus tarnd Ravens into Buzzahds an' backed up de waters ob de Mississippi ocean, till dey rized so high dat de worl' was in ker-clipse.

Dis am er wonderful century! Mos' exeroosheatin'. De age in which de posterity ob Adam views back an' down de bullervards ob de ages an' centuries, passed an' comin'.

An' we find dat de bullervard am smoothed an' greased 'slick ez glass by de constant comin' an' passin' ob de various nations, in dey transactions an' doings, in excervatin' de worl'. An' who froo de instrumentality ob providence hab vitooperrated an' sallervated de extremity ob time, necessarily, an' done captivated an' twisted erbout de pinacle ob astronomy an' or-

ganized de horrerscope ob dooterronony an' navigation so enthusiastically in sich er way an' manner ez to digest an' disfranchise de proverbial state ob antiquity beyond de posserbillities ob non realization, an' precipitation.

Yes sah! dis am er great century! Puffeckly mahbellous! An' it devastates, capsizes an' preeippertates mah abberishes mentality, when ah tries to 'splore de great an' mystical regions ob mystery, fillerbusterin' de reconstruction ob fundermental exclusion an' der jinein' hands wiff circumstances, catchin' de bull ob opposition by de tail an' dahby circumventin' an' preventin' de stoppin' ob de world's progress, an' frenrollersizein' de frennerlogical conclusion ob valorism!

An' ez Shakeerspire says we shall 'vance on an' on, till we run pass de stars. Faster den race hosses. Yea! faster den de kyars! De clouds ob opposition will kerfrollie off wiff strife, an' we'll hab er gyarden ob eeden fo' all ob ah life.

## De Raddeekayshun ob Bruddah Jones.

To MR. CLAUDE MEEKER, Columbus, Ohio.

Yer honor, Jedge an' all de res'  
Ah rise to exkermuncate,  
To organize de tendency,  
An' splain mahse'f mos' adequate.

De normity am mos' profoun'.  
De bruptness am personified.  
An' kose de tick tacks on boff sides,  
Projects us somewhat modified.

Dey hain't no venue in dis case,  
De skrootiny am fas' planked down,  
De law am frusterkated so,  
De jurisprudence on dis groun'.

Now see hyar Jedge, an' all de res',  
Ah's hyar dis mawnin' to exclaim  
Dat dis whol' tings er speeracy,  
To 'vick Brer Jones it am er shame.

De fus' place ah hain't seed no law,  
In Blackstone ner in de almernack,  
To prove dat Bruddah Jones am stole,  
Dem chickens in dat coffee sack.

How de dickens, in de fus' place Jedge,  
Ef ah mus' so vytroperate,  
On sich inquisser kayshessness,  
Jedge, kin yo' dis expaysheate?

Ah radicates de microscope!  
An' generates debillity.  
To 'rase de tecknerkalities  
An' breeveate dis whol' decreee.

Yo' knows, Jedge, whut ah's driblein' at,  
Ah's got de bull squah by de tail.  
Dis am er hen roos argument,  
Ah specks some points am kinder frail.

But doan' yo' tinks ah hain't befo',  
Had jes' sich hen roos' case lak dis!  
Ah swah sah! on dis rabbit's foot,  
Dis case am frail ez "Olly Twiss."

De tick tacks ob de circumstance,  
Defilleates de microscope.  
Dah being no loop holes in de law,  
Wiff dis case it am hard to cope.

Ah's gwine to flosstercate erbit,  
On tings pertainin' to sich stuff,  
Ah specks befo' ah breeveates,  
Ah'll spaysheathe Jedge li'l rough.

Ah's somewhat handicapped mahse'f,  
Ah hain't prezaxly fixed fo' battle,  
De krosserskewshun ah done specks  
Desahs to stumped me lak cattle.

Kose Jedge, ah'd lak to hab mo' time,  
To zamin' in de law some mo',  
Ah kackerlates de ferment strong,  
An' kose Jedge, dey's lots mo' to know.

All dis hyar ebb'dence 'pears to me  
Er swallowd gnat an' er swallowd camel!  
All dis stuffs jes' been Jedge, hatched up  
To git Brer Jones in de brahs an' bramel.

Yo' kain't conspute deez fac's bejinks!  
Dey stan' ez stedfas' ez de spinks!  
Land sakes! Why Jedge it makes me tickle,  
In spite Brer Jones seems in er pickle.

Ah's 'zamind whut shakespeare done says,  
An' took er glimpse at Paul an' Peter.  
Brer Jones am vinderkated dah,  
In ebbry line an' ebbry meeter!

Dey's lots ob pressure fotched to bare,  
Dat's fundermental now an' den,  
An' abdeekates bumbasstickly,  
But dat doan' prove he stole er hen.

De horoscope am sanctified!  
De muskkerdine it am mos' rude!  
De allerbasker fermentates,  
De circumstances all am crude!

Ah's tol' geehosserfat onee said  
De fillentroppic spirit am,  
Incopious an' regenerates,  
Wiffin de dusky race ob Ham.

Dahfo' ah skribes mahse'f pro-tem  
To ax fo' habbiss korpusness.  
To extricate dis 'tanglement,  
An' free dis brudder in distress!

Now Jedge dey's no use foolin' 'roun',  
Er dodgin' at dis, an' er dodgin' at dat.  
Fae's am done been done splained by me,  
Dey's no use takin' titt fo' tatt!

De adament inkulkates fac's!  
De revised law disrupterkates.  
De prelude fas' ersimmerlates,  
An' swallers fac's an' massterkates!

Dey's no dygresshun ez ah spoze,  
To comprehen de pennetooch!  
Dey's nuff been flosserfied by me,  
To get Brer Jones plum out dis skrootch.

De spectacle's extravagant!  
De economics verified!  
Ah captivates de pinacle,  
An' all de res' Jedge am supplied!

All dis am high pofettical!  
Combussterbel ez kyaroseen.  
Er part an' paresoil theeorized,  
De mos' conglomerate ah's done seen.

Brer Jones hain't stole no chickens, Jedge.  
He am er Christian good an' strong.  
He am er piller in de church,  
He nebbah's done er ting dat's wrong.

Kose he laks chicken lak us all,  
An' nebbah r'fuses ah mus' 'fess,  
When ebbah it am passed eroun',  
To kyary hisse'f er batch ob bress'.

But he doan' 'low his appetite  
To make him do er ting not right!  
He sho' loves wattahmillun, Jedge!  
Ah swah! he woulден' steal er bite.

De dignity, Jedge, ob mah job  
Requires me to presippertate!  
De sponserbillties frust on me,  
To testify an' approbate.

Ah's sillerquized dis case er speck,  
An' trompd 'roun' all dis legal groun',  
Dey hain't no afferbillity  
De krosserkewshun done am foun'.

De parables reverberrates,  
De longitude done broadens out,  
Say Jedge, come down to chicken fac's  
Whut am all dis hyar fuss erbout?

De climax am extemporized!  
De rectangle am hard to beat,  
Ah advocates de rule in vain,  
Ah moves we drap de gross reseat.

So Jedge, ah winds dis case tight up!  
An' klood dat it am time to stop,  
Ah hopes yo'll fertillize deez pints,  
An' over on mah issue flopp!

## Fishin' Time.

To MR. E. H. SHARP.

Blue bird an' de killdee  
Am er flittin' by!  
Spring time chillun!  
An' de fishin' time's nigh!  
Git de pole an' tackle  
An' we'll tromp down to de stream,  
Whah de fish bull an' de turtle  
Dah am jes' ez thick ez cream!

Look hyar Efram Sambo,  
Grabb dat spade an' dig some bait.  
Git up in er jiffy!  
Kaze we hain't got long to wait!  
Yo's slower den de ol' man,  
An' ah's sixty fow an' twenty,  
Go fotch us back er kyart load!  
Kaze dis bait ám li'l scanty!

Dat Sambo, he am er critter,  
He's ez lazy ez Ike Skrimmin',  
He jes' needs er good cowhidin',  
Er some udder kine ob trimmin'.  
Ah wish ah was his daddy!  
Yo' bet ah'd make him walk it  
An' de time ah got froo wiff him  
He er pieket fence could hopp it!  
Rastus fotch mah backker  
An' mah pipe dah in de shanty!  
Come on wiff us Sambo!

Ah specks yo's dug us bait er plenty!  
Whah's de poles an' tackle,  
Dog mah eats!  
Whut's dat boy doing?  
Dat li'l' po' brack raskul  
Keeps me brilein' an' er stewin'!

Yo' better come er flyin'!  
Yo' li'l' white eyed pickerninny!  
Whah's mah pipe an' backker?  
Hain't yo' fotchd de ol' man any?  
Erpon mah soul! Yo's nuff  
To make me stomp lak massa Dixon!  
Yo' tink wees got de whol' day  
Fo' er foolin' an' er fixin'?

De older dat yo' gits  
Ah blebs de bigger fool yo's makin'!  
Look hyar stop yo' bawlin'  
An' yo' twiss'n' an' er shakin'!  
See hyar! whah's yo' mammy?  
Betsy? Fotch mah pipe an' backker,  
Bress dat ol' brack woman!  
Dey's no udder sweet jes' lak her!

Well boys, we'll tromp  
Ercross de meadows  
To ol possum trott lagoon!  
Tromp up li'l' faster  
Kaze it's gittin' 'long to noon!

Ah nebbah goes er fishin',  
'Dout dis good ol' rabbit's foot!  
Ah kyars it right hyar, sah!

In de leg ob dis ol' boot.  
Kaze ah bleebs in hants an' hoodoos,  
Dat day pessterkates erbout,  
But dis rabbit's foot an' pepper  
Soon will git 'em on de rout!

It sho' do break de hoodoo  
Dis ol' rabbit's foot ob mine!  
Tis good luck to de ol' man,  
Fotches nibbles to mah line.  
Ah nebbah goes erway  
Wiffout er bull fish  
An' er sucker  
To hab er big fish fryin'  
An' to 'vite in Sistah Tucker!

When ah's froo er fishin',  
An' mah line won't hol' no mo',  
Ah puts foots in de road  
An' den ah tromps back to de do',  
Ah hyar ol' Betsy singin',  
An' er hummin' at er song,  
"Ah wish mah ol' man  
Wiff dem fish would come erlong."

Den ah ropp sof' on de do'.  
An' she say, "ol' man  
Am dat yo'?"  
Kose it am mah Betsy!  
It's yo' ol' man sho' fo' true!  
Den she frows de do' wide open,  
When she sees dah in mah han',  
De fish she shouts fo' glory,  
Grabbs de lard an' fryin' pan!

Sich er sizzlin' an 'er  
Frizzlin' when she frows  
Dem in to frye!  
De pickerninnys file up,  
Smack dey mouves an' bat dey eye!  
An' de way dey keeps er shoutin',  
All de passel sho' do feel,  
De bull fish in de batter,  
Beats de possum an' de eal.

Yo' tawk erbout yo' bacon  
An' yo' tawk erbout yo' greens,  
An' yo' tawk erbout yo'  
Hoghead cooked wiff  
Great big chunks ob leen,  
Yo' tawk erbout er fiddle  
An' er good ol' banjo tone,  
Dat strikes yo' in de ankle  
An' dat koch yo' in de bone.

But dey's nuffin' makes yo' chuckle,  
An' dey's nuffin' makes yo' shout,  
Ez when yo's got er nibble,  
An' yo's fotched er bull fish out!

Den it's tromp! tromp! tromp!  
We am totein' to de stream,  
Whah de bull fish an' de turtle  
Dah, am jes' ez fick ez cream!

## Way Down Souf!

TO S. NEAL HALLOCK.

Sing dat song once mo'!  
Miss Mandy.  
Jes' once mo', jes' ef' yo' please.  
It sounds ez sweet  
Ez angel whispers  
An' de song birds 'mong de trees.  
It kyars me back!—way back yonder!  
Way down souf!  
Whah we tromp'd froo de  
Cotton fields,  
An' when ah hearts was sad,  
We sung dat chune,  
To make ah souls glad!  
Way down souf!

Yo' know nuffin' bout dem days,  
Miss Mandy—  
Dem was befo' yo' time.  
'Sides yo's bin rar'd  
In er diffun' clime!  
Yo' nebbah had to work  
Fum de fus' horn blo'  
Lak we uster hab to hoe  
Till de sun sink'd lo',  
Way down souf!

But we had good times  
Miss Mandy!  
Some good ol' times fo' sho'!  
Ol' missy an' ol' massa,  
We didn' let 'em know!  
Yo' bet wees mighty kyarful  
When we had ah dance an' feas',  
Dat dey didn' git an' inklin'  
Ner er pinter in de leas'.

When ah hyar dat chune  
Miss Mandy,  
Ah wants to step erbout  
An' do jes' lak de ol' fo'ks  
When dey uster sing an' shout,  
Way down souf!  
Ah kin see 'em now!  
Ez dey raised dey voice to sing  
An' sot de ol' brack shanty  
In one great big ring,  
Way down souf!  
Dey'd fill up wiff de gospel  
At de soun' ob dat ol' chune,  
An' raise up Paul an' Lazarus  
When dey soul got in er boon,  
Way down souf!

But dem day's done gone  
Miss Mandy.  
Dey's gone lak er dream !  
An' de ol' fo'ks done 'cross'd de stream  
But doh dey's gone an' ah's lef' erlone,  
An' ol' age done creep'd  
In decz ol' bones,  
Dey's er hankerin' feelin'  
Keeps er driblein' me back !  
Way down souf !

When er dahky is ol'  
An' his step comes slo',  
An' he totters lak er reed,  
When de sof' winns blo',  
An' all his ties ob earf am dead,  
An' fo'ks all strange  
Whah ebber he tread,  
It's de ol' time chune  
Wiff er elah keen knack,  
Dat makes yo' feel new,  
Seems yo' youth comes back,  
Way down souf !

## Lil' Brac Sheep.

TO DR. JOHN DUDLEY DUNHAM AND WILBUR DUNHAM,  
Columbus, Ohio.

De li'l brac' sheep  
    Tromp 'roun' all day,  
Way in de lonesome medder,  
    He git los' fum de res'  
Ob de fol' an' lay  
    Out in de rain drap wedder.

He tuck 'imse'f up,  
    Chuck full ob chill,  
An' lis'en,  
    Sof'ly lis'en,  
To hyar de massa  
    Call fum de hill  
To tell dat he  
    Am miss'n.

He look eroun'  
    An' peer en' peer,  
Wid er feelin'  
    Kineder skeery.  
Den he tromp  
    An' tromp  
Dis way an' tutter  
    Till ergin ergittin' weary.

He sot down ergin  
Kineder solemn lak  
An' he drap his head  
In ponder  
Jes' er tryin' hard  
To solve er way  
To git out ob  
His quander.

But it seem  
De mo' he tink  
An' tink  
His head chucks up  
Wid muddle  
An' he tink an tink  
His se'f to sleep  
Till ergin  
He lay in er huddle.

Finally he hyars  
De call ergin  
An' de po' li'l brac'  
Sheep waken,  
An' he hop up kineder slo'  
Lak he got er li'l' doubt  
While his chilly frame  
Keep shakin'.

Den he tromp off slo'  
An' he peep an' peep,  
An' he lif' up his head  
An' lis'en,  
To hyar dat voice  
Call out some mo',  
To say dat he am missin'.

Las' de call come slo'  
In er solemn tone,  
An' he stop an' peer  
An' lis'en,  
An' he caper wiff' glee  
Fum bone to bone  
Kaze he kno'  
Dat he am missin'.

An' he tarn his head  
To koch de pint  
Fom which de soun'  
Am trab'lin  
Den he stawt off slo'  
An' he tromp an' tromp  
Til de massa  
Come up an' grab 'im.

## **Pawson Locus Visits Sistah Tootles.**

Howdy Sistah Tootles!  
Ah's jes' er passin' by.  
Thought I'd kindah drap in  
Let yo' kno' revival's nigh.  
Hain't seed yo' out to meetin',  
Ner Deacon Tootles needer,  
Yo' know ah miss yo' all  
Kaze yo's so good er stawtin' meeter.

How's de ol' fo'ks an' de chillen?  
Tell me how dey's gittin' long,  
When yo' doan come out to meetin'  
Ah knows dey am sumpin' wrong.  
How's de ol' man's roomertism,  
How's his gout, his corns an' chills?  
Seems dis whole big human family  
Mus' hab some de aches an' ills.

Well ah guess it's bes' to hab 'em  
Kaze de Lawd he had 'em too.  
So we jes' well keep on trus'in'  
An' ah guess he'll fotch us froo.  
Paul he had 'em, good ol' Lijah,  
Moses an' de res' de flock  
But dey kep' dey foots er trompin'  
On de good ol' Zion's rock.

Doan' yo' kno' good Sistah Tootles,  
Ah's had trials dat priek'd lak thorns.  
An' I'd git so glum an' muddled,  
Wished I'd nebbah done been born,  
When de fus' ting dat I'd knows ob  
Some good Sistah jes' lak yo',  
Would fotch 'roun' er great big  
Possum, sich stuff  
An' er chicken er two.

Den right dah mah burden drapp'd off  
An' mah soul got light ez air  
An' yo' good ol' pawson, honey  
Was widout an' ache er care.  
Well sah! ef hyar hain't de Deacon,  
Deed it dooz mah soul delight,  
Jes' er gittin ready am yo',  
Fo' to stawt out, well dat's right.  
Man mus' earn his bread an' butter  
In de perspire ob his brow,  
Diggin' tayters, wheelin'  
Turnips, makin' out ah guess some how.

Hope yo'll make er lots ob money,  
Sabe de Pawson li'l' bit,  
Kose yo' knows de Bible pintly  
Says dis one ting, not fo'git.  
Good day Deacon, trus' de Lawd sah!  
An' he'll fotch yo' froo alright,  
Ah'll pray some too  
Fo' yo' bruddah, fo' ah goes  
To bed tonight.

Am dat Rastus? Come hyar sonny  
He am jes' de spit ob yo'.  
Got er head lak Bookah Wash'ton  
Make er preechah ob him too,  
Yo' bin in de lasses, hain't yo?  
Stealin' shoogah fum yo' mammy.  
Yo's jes' up de same ol' trixins  
Lak dat boy ob mine call'd Sammy.

An' dah's Sukie, come hyar honey  
Come an' shake de Pawson's hand.  
Siss yo's got de sweetes' chillen  
In mah Sabbath schoolin' band.

See hyar siss, yo's lookin' splendid!  
Yo' keeps gittin' better lookin',  
Yo' jes' lak some peert young lassy,  
Why doan' yo' hab yo' pieter tookin'?  
Ah jes' wish yo' wasn't married  
Ah jes' wish yo' wasn't too,  
I'd jes' gwine an' fotch de papers  
We'd git married  
Dat's whut we'd do.

Siss yo' wouldn't hab  
No 'jections would yo'  
Ef sich was de case?  
Yo' am jes' de kine ob Sistah  
Fo' to be in sich er place.  
Yo' kin sing all kind of meeters,  
Yo' kin pray lak sixty, too  
Dey hain't nuffin' in church tactics  
Dat mah Sistah yo' kain't do.

Kose ol' Betsy she still totes roun',  
An' fo' years we's been togeddah,  
But ah tell yo' Sistah Tootles,  
She am 'trary ez Ruff weddah,  
She's so jealous, an'  
She's got so dat she frows  
Flat irons at me,  
Ebbry time ah's got er 'pinion  
Dat wiff her doan' 'zactly 'gree.

Tings am gittin' too prekyareess  
Ah kain't stand de ting er tall,  
Why she shubb'd me in de fiah place  
Kaze ah mentioned Sistah Gaul.  
Kose ah nat'ly laks de Sistah's  
'Zacly lak de Lawd intended  
An' ah isn't gwine to slight 'em  
Doan' kyar how she gits offended,  
But ah guess yo's got er nuff troubles  
Wiffout hyarin' mah tales an' woes,  
Kaze ah got mo' fo' to mention  
Den ah's in mah shack got clothes.

See hyar Sistah Tootles,  
Ah's jes' tellin' Bruddah Bryahs  
Dat he oddah tas'e yo' cookin'  
Yo's de bes' cook in de choirs,  
Dey hain't no use er tawkin'  
Fum Sally down to Mandy,  
When it comes to ol' time cookin'  
Dey hain't no one lak yo' handy.

No ah tank yo' mah good sistah,  
Ah regrets ah kain't set down,  
Kose yo' knows ahs lots ob visits  
Fo' to make erbout de town.  
Some de sistahs will git jealous  
Ef de Pawson doan' call 'roun'  
So ah mus' keep tings harmonious  
Ef ah spees to stay in town.

Ah jes' had er minute sistah,  
But to yo' mah specs mus' make.  
Sis whut's dat er sotin' yondah?  
Am dat some dat ol' poun' cake?  
Look lak 'somepun's boun' to happen  
Fo' to make me late some how,  
Sistah skewze mah fernal bruppness  
Jes' er slice ob dat right now.

Ah mus' say ah jes' kain't he'p it  
Yo's de bes' ermong mah sheep.  
Oh fo' Gawd sakes! Sistah Tootles,  
Hain't yo' gwine to some dat keep?  
Umph! Yo' sholy lubbs yo' Pawson  
Yo's done proved dat ting, ah kno'  
Mah times up, ah knows, good sistah  
But it seems ah jes' kain't go.

Whut yo' gwine to do now Sistah?  
Fotch some possum? Whut yo' say,  
Look er hyar de way yo's fixin'  
Ah woan' git erway to day,  
Kose yo' hain't ergwine to 'sult me  
Fotch whut ebbah dah yo's got,  
Hain't yo' got er few dem chittlins  
Kinder steemin' in de pot?

Hab yo'? Mah sakes Sistah Tootles  
Dis am bettah den revival,  
Dis am gospul, dis hain't flattah  
Dey's no one dat am yo' rival.  
Doan' git angry wiff yo' Pawson,  
Ah doan' mean no 'fense er tall,  
Ah jes' feels jes' lak cne ob yo'  
Ebbry time ah makes er call.

Had no idea dat ahs gwine to  
Hab sich sprizes 'frust on me  
Seems de Lawd am 'tinually boun' to  
Rain sich manna down on me,  
Hope 'twill allus be er rainin'  
Ef sich stuff ez dis comes down,  
Ah hain't tickler 'bout no  
Mansion, 'bout no robe  
Ner 'bout no crown.

What's dat clock er tickin' Sistah?  
Seben, er lebben? Ah mus' go!  
Wrap up somefun fo' de Pawson  
Kaze termorrow ah'll eat some mo'.

## De Cullahd Speekah!

TO DR. E. A. WHITMIRE, Columbus, Ohio.

Mah frens an' fellah trabbler,  
    Ah rise tonight to say,  
Dat ah feels mos' eppahzootic  
    To be honored in dis way.  
Ah didn't kackerlate  
    Ah's gwine to be de fus' to speak,  
An' to buss in at dis juncture  
    Seems it am er lots ob cheek.

Ah hain't much on speech makin',  
    Ah doan' lay no claim to sich,  
Ah's 'fraid befo' ah gits froo  
    Ah's gwine to swamp into de ditch.  
Ah's kinder skyard ah's gwine to  
    Git de hoss behine de kyart!  
So dat am pawt de reason  
Dat ah's er li'l' skyard to stawt.

Ah hain't much on skewee makin',  
    Tryin' to wiggle out de hawness,  
Dis am er fac' ah speaks tonight,  
    An' comes fum one dat's honest,  
Dis am big game fo' me tonight,  
    Ah mus' say fo' to tackle,  
So dat am 'bout de reason,  
Dat ah feels jes' skyard er spackle.

Ah doan' know much 'bout grammah,  
Dahfo' nebbah de less ah specks,  
Befo' ah gits ha'f froo dis ting  
    Ah'll git loss in mah tex',  
De d'sults am so permisskess  
    An' so debillertates itse'f,  
Dat after 'vestergayshun  
    Dey hain't nuffin' much dat's lef'.

Ah useter preech er li'l' bit,  
    Was called er fair exzortah!  
But some de deacons rizzed er kick,  
    An' cut mah salary shortah.  
Right den an' dah ah drapp'd mah trade,  
    White washin' b'gin to follah.  
So when yo' need sich in mah line  
    Yo'll find me in de hollah.

Ah see so many hyar tonight  
    Kin orate lak good Moses.  
Ah jes' kain't see how ise de one  
    To speak, yo' good fo'ks choses,  
Ah sho' mus' 'gratulate mahse'f  
    At dis great unckshess kineness  
An' pacify mah inmos' soul an' say,  
    Dis am sublimeness,

Sich honors frusst on me dis way  
    It pessterkates me terr'ble!  
Ah's jes' plum drunk wiff joy an' glee,  
    An' free fum all tings worr'ble.  
Ah retrospeckterkates er speek  
    De pass down to de present,  
De 'vancement ob prosperity,  
    Bobbs up jes' lak er pheasant.

Why ah jes' feels mos' hippnertized,  
Mah heart's combuskerated!  
To hab sich good will ob yo' all,  
To be so ellervated.  
De parr'ble ob mah dreams explode  
Far mo' den ah expected!  
Ah hopes whut ah's done said tonight,  
Will allus be refleckted.

Dey's so much dat's to tawk erbout,  
Mah mine gits in confusion,  
In tryin' to exkervate some thoughts  
De differn' sides perroozin',  
But beings ah mus' be speedy,  
Kaze mah time am got er limit.  
De tings dat am less 'powtant,  
Ah'll mah subjec' kinder trim it.

Mah frens yo' all am 'sembed hyar,  
To abdereate great problem,  
Ah hopes yo'll labberate yo'se'ves  
Togeddah fo' to solb 'em.  
De copiousness ob fluency  
Absorbs mah aspirations,  
To sich er stent  
Ah hopes mah frens  
Will he'p de cullahd nation!

Kose ah debbillrates de fac'  
Dat we hain't reached de zenith!  
Whah 'vancement an' prosperity  
Am hubberin' in between us.  
De eagle am er roostin' high!  
He flopps his wings an' flutters,  
He koch er hol' de Stars an' Stripes  
An' says we all am brudders.

Move on ye cullahd fo'ks! Move on!  
Jes' lak de ship ob Zion!  
Ef yo' kerflounce de Lawd will gibb  
Yo' credit fo' er tryin'!  
De bumbs may buss loss in de air,  
De shells crack loose an' whis'el!  
Jes' dodge 'em lak er porckyoopine  
March on lak Paul, de Pissel!

Ah takes de telescope ob thought,  
An' views beyond ol' Dixie!  
An' tings am kinder brilein' up  
An' gittin' mighty twisty!  
Jes' keep right on!  
Doan' make er turn,  
Jes' keep yo' foots er trompin'  
Fus' ting yo' know yo' all will buss  
Squah in de harbor stompin'!

De flosserfy ob de phrase  
Ah bleebz, de subjee' signed befo' me,  
It's got me sortah tangled  
At de same time kineder bores me!  
Ah laks to tawk permisskuss  
Fus' one ting an' den de udder,  
Not tied up, but jes' let loose  
Lak er ship dat's on er skudder.

Perskronnimy am one de tings  
Ah laks mos' pow'ful awful!  
Er ting ah laks to 'lusstrate 'bout  
When ah gits pow'ful thoughtful.  
It patterrisk terkates mah views  
An' makes mah subjec' spicey!  
It jossellates de fo'kses up  
So dat dey doan' git ieey!

But pollerticks am er nudder ting,  
Dat occupies mah tenshun!  
Ah'll not abbrupterkate dis now,  
To gibb mah time extenshun'  
Mah time am flittin' mighty fas'  
Jes' lak er big ball eagle!  
Ah guess it's 'bout de time fo' me  
To out dis loop to wiggle!

Ah hopes ah's spok'd hermet'cally  
In sich er way an' manner  
To glorify dis United States  
Dis great big 'Mer'can banner!  
Dat quadruped de dubb ob peace  
Kerfrolies 'roun' erbout us!  
De lion's done laid down wiff de sheep  
An' fears done tuck plum out us!

Now ef yo'll cleah yo' froats er spell,  
We'll hab er li'l' singin',  
Ah want yo' all to sot dis place,  
Jes' lak er cow bell ringin',  
Jes' frow yo' soul dow in de chune!  
An buss out payteotic  
'Rouse de white fo'ks off dey shinns  
Wiff er cheer dat's narrokocktie!

## Po' Li'l' Rastus.

To DR. C. E. McCLELLAND, Columbus, Ohio.

Little Rastus feelin' blue—  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Out o' sorts an' gloomy, too!  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Broke his little hobby hoss.  
Makes de little fellah cross.  
Doan' cry, honey, 'tain' much loss.  
Po' li'l' Rastus!

He jes' wo' out, rompin' 'roun',  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Git up, honey, fum de groun'.  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Look ee dah, dun spiled yo' dress,  
An' it am yo' Sunday bes',  
Now hain't yo' er poody mess!  
Po' li'l' Rastus!

Whut dat stickin' on yo' han'?  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Yo' bin in de 'lasses can.  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Whut dat whut de Bible say  
'Bout de chile dat steal day 'way?  
He'll go whah de bad man stay!  
Po' li'l' Rastus!

Dat ol' bad man am er sight.  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Cum er sneakin' 'roun' at night.  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Cum an' koeh yo' when yo' sleep,  
Den he take er great big leap!  
Down er hol' dat's way down deep!  
Po' li'l' Rastus!

Cum hyeah, li'l' wooly head.  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Gwine to tuck yo' way to bed.  
Po' li'l' Rastus!  
Leek ee dah, de day dun gone!  
Shaddahs streamin' th'ew de co'n,  
Sleep until de sunlight dawn!  
Po' li'l' Rastus!

## De "Big Fow" Cullahd 'Cepshun.

To DR. SHERMAN LEACH, Columbus, Ohio.

Was yo' at de dance an' 'sepshun?  
At siss Poodle's Chewsday night?  
Didn't git no inbertayshun?  
Sut'ly yo' she didn't slight!

'Tis de troof ah tells yo', Liza,  
All de bes' fo'ks in de town,  
Multituded dah toegeddah,  
Dey was dah fo' miles eroun'.

Hain't no stretchin' ob de blanket,  
All dem fo'ks was dress to def!  
Not er tryin' to be puzzumpshus,  
Dis ol' gal looked right herse'f!

Sukie Razzah, Tootsy Dewdrap,  
Roxy Hurdle 'ceived de gess,  
Dat was 'pozed ob tony dahkys  
Fum de Norf, Souf, Eas' an' Wes'.

When dey stawted up de dancin',  
Roozum Jacobs! Rome did howl!  
Oh mah foddah! But yo' oddah,  
Seed ol' prancin' Sistah Owl!

She's jes' layin' back on dat dahky  
Come fum Dixie hyar las' June,  
He's de mugwump tried to make us,  
Bleeb he was some 'pawton coon.

Allus frownin' out words jawbreakers,  
Struttin' tarnin' up his nose,  
Wiff dat great big bee gum hat on  
An' dem yaller striped cloze!

He was bowin' an' er scrapein'  
At de women all de night!  
Gibb de debbil his belongins'  
Mus' say he was mos' perlite!

Mah ol' man was jes' er steppin',  
Wiff his sizzah tailor coat!  
An' dem yaller legged pantaloons,  
Dey was loud ernuff to vote!

Oh his hyar was combd an' pawt'd,  
Looked ez slick ez winder glass!  
An' wiff bohgomō' he's 'fewmed up,  
An' he's nimble ez er bass!

When de fiddles struck de po'kah,  
Umph! Ah koch'd 'im by de wing!  
Lif' mah pickahdilly trailah,  
Oh but how we bofe did swing!

Fus' de slutein' ob yo' pawtners,  
Den de hop skipp an' de jump!  
An' some mo' kerfloopin' tick tacks,  
But we got dah ebbry plump!

Pawt de time dey was er mix up  
An' er rumpus on de flo'!  
But de dahkys somehow managed  
Fo' to keep de ting er go!

Sich er huggin' an' er squeezin'!

Sich er bobbin' up an' down!

Pawt de time ah tootsy woot sees,

Wasn't techin' tall de groun'!

Jes' we's 'bout to spred de eagle,

Frisky doubtin' Thomas Joe,

Got bofe foots mix'd up wiff Sambo's

Fell an' nahly broke his toe!

Jes' de same he kep' er tarnin'

Lak er pickerninny's top!

Long's de fiddles was er sawin'

Yo' couldn't make de dahky stop!

He was dancin' in de middle,

Nex he's shufflin' neah de wall,

Doan' kyar how dey bumpd ergin 'im,

Dey couldn't make de raskul fall!

Lawd! his foots dey mus' hab measured,

Twenty inch fum heel to toe!

It didn't make er bit er diffunce

Not er secon' was he slo'!

When we quit to go to supper,

Sich er feas' yo' nebbah seed!

When ol' Sukie gibb de signul,

Wished yo'd seed us take de lead!

Good by Liza! Lawd er mussy!

Ah mus' go git dat washun out!

Fo' dem white fo'ks, ef ah doan'

Dey'l crack dey whip an' make me shout!

## A Profuse Encomium.

TO DANIEL J. RYAN AND C. H. CARPENTER. Columbus, O.

Lookin' nice to-night, Miss Liza,  
Yo's out dressed 'em all to-night.  
Wid dat ah so frusterkaytun  
Yo' so dazzling' in de light!  
Please doan' 'strew mah wurdz fo flattah  
Spoken incandessenly,  
But! wid mutuallistic frankness  
'Cep 'em fabbrykayshenly.

“Thank you, Mistah Johnsins',  
Do yo' think I look so fine?  
'Deed sah, Mistah Johnsins',  
Yo' so asterroshus kine.  
Woan' yo' sot beside me  
An' conversykate er while,  
Please doan' hab no skooples  
Kaze Ize togged up in dis style.”

“Yo's supassed yo'se'f, Miss Liza,  
Quiv-vah-kay-shah-ently gran',  
An' yo' grace dis runkshus 'kayshun  
Lak one fum de glory lan'.  
Ef yo' hab no interjeekshuns  
Will yo' dance er step wiff me?  
Kaze sech 'joicin' frollerkayshun  
Gibbs fellerisher-tish-shus glee.”

“ ‘Skyoose me, Mistah Johnsins’,  
I doan’ kyah to mingel late,  
I would raddah be specktayshus  
Sotin’ hyeah wid Mistah Gate.  
Not dat I doan’ d’ sah yo’ tenshun  
An’ doan’ preeshee-ate yo’ ’ques’,  
I prefer tran-quil-ler-kayshun  
Sotin’ lookin’ at de res’.”

“ ‘Cept’ mah ’pology, Miss Liza,  
Fo’ mah troo-ser-tay-shus ’ques’.  
I jes ax’d yo’ fo’ politeness,  
Tho’t yo’d lak to jine de res’.”  
“ ‘Tain’t er bit o’ trooshun,  
Mistah Johnsins’, not at tall!  
I may grant yo’ axin’  
When we ’ten’ sum uddah ball.”

## A Dahky Ditty.

TO DR. M. D. FITCH, Columbus, Ohio.

Oh Dahky stop yo' moanin'!  
Oh Dahky stop yo' sigh!  
De sun am 'way up yondah  
Er Blazin' in de sky.  
De vines am full o' millens  
De apples tarnin' yaller!  
De sugar corn's in tassel  
Down yondah in de holler.

Down yondah in de holler  
Down yondah in de holler,  
De sugar corn's in tassel  
Down yondah in de holler!

Oh Dahky stop yo' fussin'!  
Oh Dahky stop yo' pout!  
De yam! yam! sweetah tayters  
De groun' am buss'in' out!

Dis hain't no time fo' weepin'  
Hit's time fo' juberlee!  
So wipe o' way de drippins,  
Fill up yo' soul wif glee!

Fill up yo' soul wiff' glee!  
Fill up yo' soul wiff' glee!  
An' wipe o' way de drippins  
Fill up yo' soul wiff' glee!

De Jaybird's chattin' gaily,  
De Peacock struttin' big!  
De fox am lookin' cunin'  
Er Blinkin' at de pig;

De bull frog am er croakin'  
Er coolin' in de bogg  
De summer dreams am soothin'  
De lazy lonesome dog.

De lazy lonesome dog,  
De lazy lonesome dog,  
De summer dreams am soothin'  
De lazv lonesome dog.

## Pawson Johnson at Dinner.

To PROFESSOR WM. O. VINEY, Indianapolis, Ind.  
AND C. W. DORFLINGER, Columbus, Ohio.

He'p you'se'f, mah bruddah,  
Jes' make yo'se'f at home!  
'Kaze yo' am no stranger  
To Siss Wiggle Sloam.  
Go 'head on dat chicken,  
'Kaze it tissen skace!  
'Doan' yo' worry, sistah,  
I is in no has'e!

"Lan' sakes, Sistah Wiggle,  
You' treat me lak er king!  
Ha! ha! 'skewze me, sistah,  
One mo' chicken wing!  
Tote me few dem waffles,  
Chitlins good an' hot!  
Ebbah ting ise eatin'  
Trabbles to de spot!

Lawd Gawd! Sistah Wiggle,  
I jes' seed dat 'possum!  
Hiden' an' er grinin'  
'Hine dat sunflow'r blossim!  
'Fo' I'd let dat possum  
Git out o' mah sight,  
Th'ow ershade mah Gospel,  
To de las' I'd fight!

Bruddah, kain't yo' sortah  
Gibb er little toas'?  
'Deed I kain't, Gawd knows it,  
Whah dey's possum reas'!  
Feed de lambs, mah Sistah,  
Whut de good book say!  
Yo's fulfillin' Scripshah  
Treatin' me dis way!

## Uncle Ned an' de Mockin' Bird.

Bruddah Mocking Bird,  
Yo's moightly lazy.  
Yo' doan' do nufin  
    But sing dat song,  
    Till de daylight's gone  
    An' de night cum 'long.  
Er coon has got to hoe an' hoe,  
Till de sinkin' sun  
    Tells de day to go.

Lawd, but yo' sing  
    So pow'ful sweet!  
Perched up dah,  
    In yo' leafy seat.  
    Is yo' lonesum?  
Does yo' hea't feel sad?  
'Pears to me  
    Dat yo' soul feels glad.

Ez Ise wockin' hard,  
    Sweet ez de cloveah  
Yo' song  
    Floats obeah,  
Way in de co'nfield  
    Whah de medlark sings,  
Up in de bough  
    Ub de tree it clings.

Yo' nebah wock  
But yo' bread is sho',  
Out in de yahd;  
'Fo' ebbry do',  
Sum kine han'  
Th'ows de little crum!  
Kaze dey kno' fo' sho'  
Dat yo' boun' to cum.

De good Samaritan  
Part dey play.  
Let yo' go 'way?  
Hungry? No!  
Dey nebah wood,  
Kaze de Lawd wood say  
Dat dey wasn't good.

I kinedah lak  
To hyeah yo' sing,  
Ef yo' is too lazy  
To flop yo' wing,  
Sing on,  
Fill de worl' wiff song.  
I mus' be gittin'  
Mah wock er lcng.

## Wished I'd Rode Mah Hoss.

TO DR. E. J. WILSON, Columbus, Ohio,  
and E. G. BURKRAM, Editor of Columbus Dispatch.

Rode on dat ah 'lectric kyah!  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!  
No musstake it raised mah hyah!  
Oddah bin er long!  
Nebbah seed seeh runnin' son!  
Swo' we's flyin' to de sun!  
Tho't dis dahky's days was dun!  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!

Gee! dat ting did split de ah!  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!  
Nuffin' wif' it kin compah!  
Oddah bin er long!  
Ebbry ting wuz blurred in sight!  
Dus' flew higher den er kite!  
Kooden' tell de lef' fum right!  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!

When she struck eroun' de kyerve,  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!  
It unstrung mah ebbry nerve!  
Oh, but I did squirm!  
Oh, she kyahd us down de line!  
No hobo kood stuck behine!  
Ef he had he'd gone stone bline!  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!

Now an' den she sortah reel!  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!  
Stirred me up fum head to heel!  
Lawd but I did quake!  
Tawk erbout er pow'ful prah!  
I sho' made one den an' dah!  
Strain was mo' den I kood bah!  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!

Once I hyeahd er moightly crack!  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!  
Tho't she's gwine to leeb de track,  
Oddah seed me, Chile!  
I felt mos' prekareyus, son!  
I hain't tawkin' jes' fo' fun!  
Tho't dis dahky's day was dun,  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!

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Tho't dis dahky's day was dun,  
Wished I'd rode mah hoss!

## Hus'el.

To DR. J. H. J. UPHAM, Columbus, Ohio.

Doan' lag an' fool  
Erlong de way—  
Hus'el!  
Doan' 'spec' to do  
All in er day—  
Hus'el!

Things will cum  
Out by an' by,  
Musen' stop  
To stew an' sigh.  
Den's when success  
May be nigh—  
Hus'el!

Take no time  
Fo' lookin' back—  
Hus'el!  
T' see whose cumin'  
On de track—  
Hus'el!  
Ebbry time  
Yo's losin' groun',  
Time yo' take  
Fo' gawkin' 'roun'.  
Ef yo' 'spec'  
To git er crown—  
Hus'el!

Ef yo' 'spec'  
Er good co'n crop—  
    Hus'el!  
Nebah git it  
Ef yo' stop—  
    Hus'el!  
Ef yo' 'spec'  
De corn to gro'  
Full co'n stawks  
In ebbry ro',  
Doan' be skaid  
To use de hoe—  
    Hus'el!

Take no time  
To argufy—  
    Hus'el!  
T' make sum fellah  
Out er lie—  
    Hus'el!  
Ha'f de time  
Yo's losin' win',  
Same time doin'  
Er li'l' sin.  
Aftah all  
Yo' nuffin in—  
    Hus'el!

## When de Fiah am 'Kinklin' Hot.

TO ROBERT PAYNE and MAJOR J. C. FULTON,  
Columbus, Ohio.

When de sno' it am er fallin',  
Winds er whizzin' down de lanes,  
An' de fros' it am er freezin'  
Fo' yo' eyes erpun de panes,  
Whut am beddah den er neslin'  
'Roun' er fiah dat's roas'in' hot?  
Fo' er pickahninny dahky  
Hain't er mo' enchantin' spot.

When de breezes am er moanin'  
An' de sun am sinkin' lo',  
An' de gloomy clouds an' shaddahs  
Geddah 'roun' erbout yo' do';  
When yo' hyeah de co'n er poppin',  
See de cidah all er foam,  
In yo' soul de joy an' gladness  
Seems eroun' erbout to roam.

An' yo' granny am er hummin',  
Cat er purrin' on de rug,  
An' yo' git er sniff de burbun  
Dat am steamin' fum de jug—  
Umph! de berry 'maggahnayshun  
Makes er puson think it's real.  
It am glory! Hesh yo' mouf, sah,  
Doan' yo' ax me how yo' feel.

All yo' troubles an' yo' burdens  
    Seems to take de swif' es flight!  
'Pears yo' berry soul am lif'ed  
    To de blissful mountain heights!  
Whah le lan's erfl' wiff honey,  
    Streets an' alleys paved wiff gol',  
An' de simphonies o' heaben's  
    Got er sweetnes' kaint be tol'.

Yo' kin sing de song o' Moses,  
    Shout yo'se'f clah to de sky!  
Pickahninny's den in cloveah,  
    No time den to weep an' sigh.  
Let de sno' keep on er fallin',  
    Let de breezes whizz an' moan,  
Longs er pickahninny's nestlin'  
    'Roun' er hot fiah ub his own.









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